
CLAIMS

What is claimed is:-

1. A control program comprising:

a document retrieving module for retrieving hyperlinked documents, the documents comprising graphical image data or instructions;

at least one document altering module adapted to alter an accessed document responsive to accessing of said document;

a document executing module for rendering a visual display or executing instructions according to said altered document;

wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.

2. The control program of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of document content alteration directives, each having at least one activation condition associated therewith; wherein the document altering module is adapted to alter said document responsive to one or more of said document content alteration directives when at least one activation condition is fulfilled.
3. The control program of claim 2 wherein the activation conditions are selected from a group consisting of downloading of a page with a specified URL, downloading of a page containing a specific script, text segment, tag or meta-tag, a predetermined amount of time having passed, an event generated by a container application, an event generated by a site agent, a user-input event.

-
-
4. The control program of claim 1 adapted to selectively activate one or more document altering modules, said document altering modules only altering documents once the document altering module is activated.
 5. The control program of Claim 1 adapted to notify a document altering module when a document has been retrieved and thereby cause the document altering module to alter the document.
 6. The control program of Claim 1 wherein a document altering module is adapted to add, remove or change instructions in the document which, when executed by the document executing module, cause the computer to perform an action selected from a group consisting of:
 - accessing a user interface hardware device;
 - sending information to a server across a network;
 - receiving information from a server across a network; and
 - receiving authorisation to allow a transaction from a transaction authorising server.
 7. The control program of Claim 1 wherein a document altering module comprises program code to cause the computer to perform an action selected from a group consisting of:
 - accessing a user interface hardware device;
 - sending information to a server across a network;
-
-

receiving information from a server across a network; and

receiving authorisation to allow a transaction from a transaction authorising server.

8. The control program of Claim 1 wherein a document altering module alters a document to prevent a function from being executed until at least one specified event has occurred.
9. The control program of Claim 8 wherein a document is altered to disable a button until at least one specified event has occurred.
10. The control program of Claim 8 wherein a document is altered to disable a hyperlink to another document until at least one specified event has occurred.
11. The control program of Claim 8 wherein a specified event is the receipt of specified information from a server.
12. The control program of Claim 11 wherein a specified event is the receipt of specified information from a server indicating the user has completed a transaction.
13. The control program of Claim 11 wherein specified information from a server is a particular web page or a web page comprising particular information.
14. The control program of Claim 11 adapted to direct one or more browser components to retrieve addressed documents which direct a user to carry out a particular action responsive to which a server transmits the specified information.
15. The control program of Claim 1 adapted to access a list of addressed documents

and to alter each addressed document to only link to other documents on said list, wherein the control program detects a user access to each addressed document on said list and carries out a predetermined function responsive to at least said detection.

16. The control program of Claim 15 wherein the function responsive to said detection is retrieval of a specified document.
17. The control program of Claim 1 further comprising one or more transaction components providing methods for carrying out a hardware function.
18. The control program of Claim 1 wherein a document is a web page.
19. The control program of Claim 18 wherein the document retrieving module and the document executing module are both part of a web browser.
20. The control program of Claim 18 adapted to parse a downloaded web page into a document object model, wherein the document altering module alters the document object model.
21. The control program of Claim 20 which maintains an object model comprising a web browser component, a document altering module and a document object model of a downloaded web page.
22. The control program of Claim 1 wherein a document altering module is adapted to display a different image or execute different instructions to the web page.
23. The control program of Claim 22 wherein the document altering module displays a different image by a browser component overlaying an alternative image over a displayed web page.

-
-
24. The control program of Claim 22 wherein the document altering module displays a different image by displaying the retrieved web page and also additional visual elements.
25. The control program of Claim 24 wherein additional visual elements comprise branding.
26. The control program of Claim 1 wherein a plurality of document altering modules alter an accessed document.
27. The control program of Claim 1 adapted to add branding to one or more web pages.
28. The control program of Claim 25 adapted to add branding to one or more web pages after a user has visited one or more specified web pages.
29. The control program of Claim 1 wherein a document altering module is activated in response to a user visiting a web page or one of a plurality of web pages and the document altering module alters subsequently retrieved web pages.
30. The control program of Claim 28 altering specified subsequent web pages.
31. A method of implementing a user interface on a self-service kiosk in conjunction with hyperlinked documents retrievable from a data store, the documents comprising renderable display information or executable instructions, the invention comprising the steps of:
- retrieving a document from a data store;
-
-

calling a document altering module which alters the document;

rendering or executing the document.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein the document altering module is adapted to alter said document responsive to one or more web content alteration directives when at least one activation condition is fulfilled, said one or more web content alteration directives being selected from a plurality of web content alteration directives, each having at least one activation condition associated therewith
33. The method of claim 31 wherein the activation conditions are selected from a group consisting of downloading of a page with a specified URL, downloading of a page containing a specific script, text segment, tag or meta-tag, a predetermined amount of time having passed, an event generated by the container, an event generated by a site agent, a user-input event.
34. The method of claim 33 comprising the step of selectively activating one or more document altering modules, said document altering modules only altering documents once activated.
35. The method of Claim 31 comprising the step of notifying a document altering module when a document has been retrieved and thereby causing the document altering module to alter the document.
36. The method of Claim 31 wherein a document altering module is adapted to add, remove or change instructions in the document which, when executed by the document executing module, cause the computer to perform a function selected from a group consisting of:

accessing a user interface hardware device;

sending information to a server across a network;

receiving information from a server across a network; and

receiving authorisation to allow a transaction from a transaction authorising server.

37. The method of Claim 31 wherein a document altering module comprises program code to cause the computer to perform a function selected from a group consisting of:

accessing a user interface hardware device;

sending information to a server across a network;

receiving information from a server across a network; and

receiving authorisation to allow a transaction from a transaction authorising server.

38. The method of Claim 31 wherein a document altering module alters a document to prevent a function from being executed until at least one specified event has occurred.

39. The method of Claim 38 wherein a document is altered to disable a button until at least one specified event has occurred.

40. The method of Claim 38 wherein a document is altered to disable a hyperlink to another document until at least one specified event has occurred.

-
-
41. The method of Claim 38 wherein a specified event is the receipt of specified information from a server.
42. The method of Claim 41 wherein a specified event is the receipt of specified information from a server indicating the user has completed a transaction.
43. The method of Claim 41 wherein specified information from a server is a particular web page or a web page comprising particular information.
44. The method of Claim 41 further comprising the step of directing one or more browser components to retrieve addressed documents which direct a user to carry out a particular action responsive to which a server transmits the specified information.
45. The method of Claim 31 further comprising the steps of:
- establishing a list of addressed documents;
- the document altering module altering each addressed document to only link to other documents on that list; and
- carrying out a function responsive to detection that the user has accessed each addressed document in the list.
46. The method of Claim 31 wherein the function responsive to said detection is retrieval of a specified document.
47. The method of Claim 31 further comprising the step of providing one or more transaction components providing methods for carrying out a hardware function.
-
-

-
-
48. The method of Claim 31 wherein a document is a web page.
49. The method of Claim 48 wherein the document retrieving module and the document executing module are both part of a web browser.
50. The method of Claim 48 including parsing a downloaded web page into a document object model and the document altering module altering the document object model.
51. The method of Claim 50 wherein a container application maintains an object model comprising a web browser component, a document altering module and a document object model of a downloaded web page.
52. The method of Claim 31 wherein a document altering module displays a different image or executes different instructions to the web page.
53. The method of Claim 52 wherein the document altering module displays a different image by a browser component overlaying an alternative image over a displayed web page.
54. The method of Claim 52 wherein the document altering module displays a different image by displaying the retrieved web page and also additional visual elements.
55. The method of Claim 54 wherein additional visual elements comprise branding.
56. The method of Claim 31 wherein multiple document altering modules alter an accessed document.
-
-

-
-
57. The method of Claim 31 comprising the step of adding branding to one or more web pages.
58. The method of Claim 55 comprising the step of adding branding to one or more web pages after a user has visited one or more specified web pages.
59. The method of Claim 31 wherein a document altering module is activated in response to a user visiting a web page or one of a plurality of web pages and alters subsequently retrieved web pages.
60. The method of Claim 59 altering specified subsequent web pages.
61. The computer readable media having the computer program of Claim 1 stored thereon.
62. A computer readable media comprising computer program code means which, when loaded onto a computer, cause it to execute the method of Claim 31.
63. A control program comprising:
- a document retrieving module for retrieving hyperlinked documents, the documents comprising graphical image data or instructions;
- a document executing module for rendering a visual display or executing instructions according to said document;
- at least one agent module responsive to retrieving of said document;
- wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.
-
-

-
64. The program of claim 63 further comprising a plurality of directives, each having at least one activation condition associated therewith; wherein an agent module is adapted to execute one or more functions responsive to one or more of said directives when at least one activation condition is fulfilled.
65. The program of claim 64 wherein the activation conditions are selected from a group consisting of downloading of a page with a specified URL, downloading of a page containing a specific script, text segment, tag or meta-tag, a predetermined amount of time having passed, an event generated by the container, an event generated by a site agent, a user-input event.
66. The program of claim 63 adapted to selectively activate one or more agent modules, said agent modules operable responsive to retrieval of documents once activated.
67. The program of Claim 63 adapted to notify an agent module when a document has been retrieved.
68. The program of Claim 63 wherein an agent module is adapted to carry out a function selected from a group consisting of:
- accessing a user interface hardware device;
- sending information to a server across a network;
- receiving information from a server across a network; and
- receiving authorisation to allow a transaction from a transaction authorising server.
-

-
-
69. The program of Claim 63 wherein an agent module is adapted to carry out a function when at least one specified event has occurred.
70. The program of Claim 69 wherein a specified event is the receipt of specified information from a server.
71. The program of Claim 70 wherein a specified event is the receipt of specified information from a server indicating the user has completed a transaction.
72. The program of Claim 70 wherein specified information from a server is a particular document or a document comprising particular information.
73. The program of Claim 69 adapted to direct one or more browser components to retrieve addressed documents which direct a user to carry out a particular action responsive to which the specified event occurs.
74. The program of Claim 69 wherein the specified event is detection that the user has viewed or accessed each of a plurality of specified documents.
75. The program of Claim 63 wherein an agent module is adapted to activate and instruct one or more separate browser components.
76. The program of Claim 63 further comprising one or more transaction components providing methods for carrying out a hardware function.
77. The program of Claim 63 wherein a document is a web page.
78. The program of Claim 77 wherein the document retrieving module and the document executing module are both part of a web browser.
-
-

-
-
79. The program of Claim 78 which maintains an object model comprising a web browser component, a document altering module and a document object model of a downloaded web page.
80. The program of Claim 63 wherein a agent module is adapted to display a different image or execute different instructions to the web page.
81. The program of Claim 80 wherein the document altering module displays a different image by a browser component overlaying an alternative image over a displayed web page.
82. The program of Claim 63 wherein the agent module causes one or more further software components to be activated.
83. The program of Claim 82 wherein further software components provide visual images.
84. The program of Claim 83 wherein further software components provide branding.
85. The program of Claim 67 wherein an agent module is activated in response to a user visiting a web page or one of a plurality of web pages and carries out functions responsive to retrieval of subsequent web pages.
86. The program of Claim 85 responsive to retrieval of specified subsequent web pages.
87. A method of implementing a user interface on a self-service kiosk in conjunction with hyperlinked documents retrievable from a data store, the documents comprising renderable display information or executable instructions, the method
-
-

comprising the steps of:

retrieving a document from a data store;

activating an agent module responsive to retrieval of the document; and

rendering or executing the document.

88. The method of claim 87 wherein an agent module executed one or more functions responsive to one or more directives when at least one activation condition is fulfilled, said one or more directives being from a plurality of directives, each having at least one activation condition associated therewith.
89. The method of claim 88 wherein the activation conditions are selected from a group consisting of downloading of a page with a specified URL, downloading of a page containing a specific script, text segment, tag or meta-tag, a predetermined amount of time having passed, an event generated by the container, an event generated by a site agent, a user-input event.
90. The method of claim 87 comprising the step of selectively activating one or more agent modules, said agent modules operable responsive to retrieval of documents once activated.
91. The method of Claim 87 comprising the step of notifying an agent module when a document has been retrieved.
92. The method of Claim 87 wherein an agent module carries out a function selected from a group consisting of:
- accessing a user interface hardware device;

sending information to a server across a network;

receiving information from a server across a network; and

receiving authorisation to allow a transaction from a transaction authorising server.

93. The method of Claim 87 wherein an agent module is adapted to carry out a function when at least one specified event has occurred.
94. The method of Claim 93 wherein a specified event is the receipt of specified information from a server.
95. The method of Claim 94 wherein a specified event is the receipt of specified information from a server indicating the user has completed a transaction.
96. The method of Claim 94 wherein specified information from a server is a particular document or a document comprising particular information.
97. The method of Claim 93 comprising the step of directing one or more browser components to retrieve addressed documents which direct a user to carry out a particular action responsive to which the specified event occurs.
98. The method of Claim 93 wherein the specified event is detection that the user has viewed or accessed each of a plurality of specified documents.
99. The method of Claim 87 wherein an agent module activates and instructs one or more separate browser components.

-
-
100. The method of Claim 87 further comprising the step of activating one or more transaction components providing methods for carrying out a hardware function.
101. The method of Claim 87 wherein a document is a web page.
102. The method of Claim 101 wherein the document retrieving module and the document executing module are both part of a web browser.
103. The method of Claim 102 wherein a container application maintains an object model comprising a web browser component, a document altering module and a document object model of a downloaded web page.
104. The method of Claim 87 wherein a agent module is displays a different image or execute different instructions to the web page.
105. The method of Claim 104 wherein the document altering module displays a different image by a browser component overlaying an alternative image over a displayed web page.
106. The method of Claim 87 wherein the agent module causes one or more further software components to be activated.
107. The method of Claim 106 wherein further software components provide visual images.
108. The method of Claim 106 wherein further software components provide branding.
109. The method of Claim 90 wherein an agent module is activated in response to a user visiting a web page or one of a plurality of web pages and carries out functions responsive to retrieval of subsequently web pages.
-
-

-
-
110. The method of Claim 90 responsive to retrieval of specified subsequent web pages.
111. A computer readable media having the control program of Claim 62 stored thereon.
112. A computer readable media comprising computer program code means which, when loaded onto a self-service kiosk, cause it to execute the method of Claim 87.
113. A control program comprising:
- a web page retrieving module for retrieving web pages;
 - at least one web page altering module adapted to alter a retrieved web page responsive to retrieval of said web page; and
 - a web page executing module for rendering said altered web page and executing any instructions in the altered web page;
- wherein the document altering module is adapted to alter said web page responsive to one or more web content alteration directives when at least one activation condition is fulfilled;
- wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.
114. A control program comprising:
- a web page retrieving module for retrieving web pages;
-
-

at least one web page altering module adapted to alter a retrieved web page responsive to retrieval of said web page;

a web page executing module for rendering said altered web page and executing any instructions in the altered web page;

wherein the control program is adapted to selectively activate at least one web page altering module, said document altering modules only altering documents once activated;

wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.

115. A control program comprising:

a web page retrieving module for retrieving web pages;

at least one web page altering module adapted to alter a retrieved web page responsive to retrieval of said web page;

a web page executing module for rendering said altered web page and executing any instructions in the altered web page;

wherein the control program is adapted to selectively activate at least one web page altering module, said document altering modules only altering documents once activated;

wherein at least one web page altering module is adapted to alter a retrieved web

page to cause said web page executing module to access a user interface hardware device when said altered retrieved web page is rendered;

wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.

116. A control program comprising:

a web page retrieving module for retrieving web pages;

at least one web page altering module adapted to alter a retrieved web page responsive to retrieval of said web page;

a web page executing module for rendering said altered web page and executing any instructions in the altered web page;

wherein the control program is adapted to selectively activate at least one web page altering module, said document altering modules only altering documents once activated;

wherein at least one web page altering module is adapted to alter a retrieved web page to cause said web page executing module to access a server when said altered retrieved web page is rendered;

wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.

117. A control program comprising:

a web page retrieving module for retrieving web pages;

at least one web page altering module adapted to alter a retrieved web page responsive to retrieval of said web page;

a web page executing module for rendering a visual display and executing any instructions in the altered web page;

wherein the control program is adapted to selectively activate at least one web page altering module, said document altering modules only altering documents once activated;

wherein at least one web page altering module is adapted to add branding to retrieved web page before said web page is executed;

wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.

118. A control program comprising:

a web page retrieving module for retrieving web pages;

at least one web page altering module adapted to alter a retrieved web page responsive to retrieval of said web page;

a web page executing module for rendering said altered web page and executing any instructions in the altered web page;

wherein the control program is adapted to selectively activate at least one web page altering module, said document altering modules only altering documents once activated;

wherein at least one web page altering module is adapted to display additional branding on the visual display;

wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.

119. A control program comprising:

a web page retrieving module for retrieving web pages;

at least one web page altering module adapted to alter a retrieved web page responsive to retrieval of said web page;

a web page executing module for rendering said altered web page and executing any instructions in the altered web page;

wherein the control program is adapted to selectively activate at least one web page altering module, said document altering modules only altering documents once activated;

wherein the control program is adapted to initially alter a web page to prevent a specified transaction being completed and to alter the web page to allow said transaction to be completed only when at least one other transaction has been completed;

wherein said control program is controlling at least part of the operation of a self-service kiosk.